

11-3-1863

Letter from Louisa Washington to Floride Clemson, 1863 November 3

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Harewood Nov 3rd 1863

My dear Floride

After a delay, caused
by the Mail into Charleston, your letter
came to us. We were so glad to receive it,
and to hear from your Mother, & yourself.
I hope you are better, and that your travel
this summer will invigorate your system,
for the winter blasts. I want to recom-
mend to you a medicine or syrup I
took last fall when I was on at Clapnet.
I went away in quest of a Tonic, for the
excitement of this border War, has not
done my flesh, never being much inclined
to obesity, and kept me in so much ex-
citement, that I was weak & easily inclined
to tedious colds, & coughs. Your Aunt
Phoebe, had given it a trial in a trouble-
some cough she had. It is simple
in taste, more like honey than any thing
else. He has pills also - to use, which

I think useful. - You can get them at a lower price, by taking them by the $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. and the syrup is always useful.

The name is Hencke Cough syrup - in Phil^a. - your Uncle B^r. buys it for his family. The pills have no Calomel in them. He was very rich himself & ^{his} ~~his~~ this recipe from the Indians - he came a fab man -

I was at Uncle E^r's last fall, and he told ^{me} he wanted you to come to visit them, I begged to be certain to go for you early in the season, as that region is cold late ⁱⁿ ~~early~~ the season. I thought the air there would be healing to you. - I felt well there, & they are so kind and hospitable, and live so nicely. - I was much pleased with my visit. He has had trouble -

- some times of late - a Raid was made into Charleston and 2000 prisoners taken. They had been very strict with the people about a parole & pass. - but troops will make a Raid at intervals for

2 They want a little trip badly - & C. also they
would join me with great pleasure - but
the times are so stormy now - we must wait
for further developments - Bayless casuals
are at their homes - a few longer - for their
harvest in the late fight - Bush - W. is
among the number - he is farming at
Claymont - the grapes are there still - so
many have gone away - & I have heard of
many deaths, since they have left.
They want to cripple the people - in
taking their labor away, not that they
care for the Black Man - what becomes of
him in a free state. I saw but few
where I was - I do not know where they
go - but I believe they are persuaded
to go to the Northern States - where
they require labor - and are glad to have
them. - Mr. Lytle is not in the neigh-
borhood - he is travelling with Mr. S.
His health was very bad. - Mary West will
be glad to hear from you - she is living
with her mother at Claymont - Among the
eldest brother is dead - so many lives
lost by sickness - during this cruel war.
I had a nice jar of Pickle to take
to you - not knowing what your

no - would like better - he get ~~very~~
little sugar - he had a store in
Tomb - by order of the Fedo^l but the
soldiers chose to dispute the Rebels taking
the advantage of it - and he had to shut
up & leave - I went to the Ferry & got
my two bags of salt - ~~for~~ no sugar, by
permit - some how or other people get
supplies - R^R is so stout a Southern
man - and so much Southern money
he does not deal in Federal money -
he avoid it. I am afraid you will
say I have written a long letter with
little interest - You must take it is
meant - he get very stupid about letter
writing so often deprived of the liberty
of sending our thoughts on paper.
Give my love your Mother and Father
if you write to him & to your Mother.
The Northern people talk of not exchanging
prisoners - as the only return is
a gain - Charley Alex - is a prisoner at
Fort Delaware.

With love for yourself your aff^l
Aunt - Louisa Washington.
I have just heard Charley Alex - in Wash - had two
hemorrhages - & thinks just getting well unless paroled &
riding on horseback - Charlotte & Mary - gone to see

suffer in consequence - The new sett
all of them of the common class - I want
some of the town, & have robbed the people
of every thing they have put away for the
winter, even clothing they take & sell again.
They are severe upon the black people for
the excuse of the black men, who followed
Lee's army into Penna. pushed the white
women away from their cows, and milked
them - They have taken all of our Turkey
& shot all of our sheep before our eyes -
they were tired of their mess pork - as to
horses - they leave us none - Took away Reeb's
cow - carriage horses and colts since.

We have but 3 horses to work with, the South
took our waggon & team - & the Federals other.
It is dreadful times - and I look for no
change whilst Lincoln is in - The northern
congress will have a new set of men,
different politics - I expect to see much
discussion - but I think the Northern Demo-
crats - a foul conspiracy - not depend on
them - I was kept from home a long
time last yr - saw much of the workings
of the parties - & found as many Southern
sympathizers as at home - at times - Many
of our rich people are for the South
in the North - many have retired & the

W² contractors there - keep up the
trade of expensive dressing & demands -
the cloth for worse times instead of
better - I am trying to get a safe guard
for our living in security. I wanted
to have gone early to see your mother
& yourself - but things have prevented
our getting off - no one likes to move
from their premises - when the cavalry
resort to such stealing measures -
I will endeavor to arrange a trip
some time - I want to see you both,
and sympathize with you, in Colburn's
situation - Bush - W^c has been a prisoner
several times. He is a good soldier -
Liz W^c & two of the M² W^c girls are at
Boarding school near Charlottesville - very
high prices - Confederate money - We all want
to see you up here - tho' we have very plain
fare - bacon - is our standard - & that we
keep close - have no quarrel for any thing
The Blakey house is full of young ladies
Dr Alexander died & the girls had to
break up - are at Blakey this winter -
R² has all the extra to settle up.

You must excuse the delay in sending our
letters - as we have ^{no} P.O. have to wait for opportu-
nities - if we send them to Town - they run a
liability of being opened - and I always put on
a little blue news - they would not be sent off -
I often think of your Father & Grandmother
far off - & no one to get to them -